

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03281 111625Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 SAM-01 OPIC-03 TRSE-00 EURE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 OMB-01 PRS-01 STR-04 /067 W

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P R 111528Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3063

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 3281

MADRID PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, PO, US

SUBJ: TORRINGTON INDUSTRIES

REF: LISBON 3166

1. LOCAL MANAGER SHANNON AND TORRINGTON CONNECTICUT LABOR RELATIONS MANAGER ASHMEAD HAVE MEETING WITH LABMIN'S CHIEF OF CABINET AMARAL AT 4:00 P.M. JUNE 11. TORRINGTON HAS AGREED TO TWO SOLUTIONS PROPOSED BY LABMIN; HOWEVER, WORKERS COMMISSION EVIDENTLY HAS REJECTED BOTH. IN ADDITION TO REJECTING LABMIN PROPOSAL, WORKERS COMMISSION HAS BEEN LESS THAN HONEST IN PRESENTING PROPOSALS TO MASS OF WORKERS. SOLUTIONS INVOLVE THESE FACTORS:

- A) SHANNON AND MANAGERS WOULD BE ALLOWED RETURN AS SOON AS TORRINGTON AGREES TO JOINT INQUIRY ON DISMISSAL OF CABRITA.
- B) MAKEUP OF INQUIRY BOARD WOULD BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION AFTER SHANNON'S RE-ENTRANCE.
- C) CABRITA'S STATUS DURING INQUIRY IS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION AFTER SHANNON'S RE-ENTRANCE.
- D) LABMIN REP WOULD BE STATIONED WITHIN TORRINGTON PLANT TO HELP RESOLVE ANY CONFLICTS WHICH MIGHT ARISE.

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2. TORRINGTON U.S. OFFICIALS WILL MEET WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ON JUNE 13 TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE STRATEGY FOR LEAVING PORTUGAL. AMONG TACTICS UP FOR DISCUSSION INCLUDE REQUESTS TO USG TO INVOKE HICKENLOOPER AMENDMENT, ATTACHMENT OF PORTUGUESE ASSETS IN U.S. AND/OR LIENS AGAINST PORTUGUESE GOODS IMPORTED INTO U.S. TORRINGTON OFFICIALS ESTIMATE FACTORY WORTH AS \$10-12 MILLION. NO REPEAT NO DECISION IS EXPECTED AT THIS MEETING.

3. EMBASSY HAS SCHEDULED MEETING WITH ASHMEAD AND SHANNON FOR JUNE 12 TO DISCUSS NEXT STEP SHOULD AMARAL JUNE 11 MEETING NOT APPEAR RESOLVE DISPUTE.

4. DISTURBANCE AT PLANT ON JUNE 5 WAS MINOR--NO DAMAGE OR INJURIES. WORKERS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PAID FOR MONTH OF MAY. BANK IS APPARENTLY REQUESTING MORE DOCUMENTATION BEFORE DRAWING FUNDS ON FROZEN ACCOUNT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON03281
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750203-0970
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750661/aaaacdwl.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 3166
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TORRINGTON INDUSTRIES
TAGS: BGEN, PO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006